CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

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LETTER DATED 30 JUNE 1995 FROM THE DEPUTY HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF SRI LANKA TO THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT ADDRESSED TO THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONFERENCE TRANSMITTING THE TEXT OF THE STATEMENT BY THE HEAD OF DELEGATION AT THE 710th PLENARY MEETING OF THE CONFERENCE ON 29 JUNE 1995 CONCERNING THE RESUMPTION OF NUCLEAR TESTING BY CERTAIN NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES

I have the honour to refer to the intervention of my Ambassador concerning recent resumption of nuclear testing by certain nuclear weapon States, which was made during the 710th Plenary meeting of the Conference on Disarmament on 29 June 1995

I should be grateful if you would kindly ensure that the attached part of this intervention could be produced as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

(Signed) W.P.R.B. Wickremasinghe
Minister
Deputy Head of Delegation

Sri Lanka notes with deep concern the continuation of nuclear testing by one nuclear weapon State and the recent decision made by another to resume testing. These developments are all the more regrettable, taking place so soon after the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review and Extension Conference during which the nuclear weapon States undertook, inter alia, to exercise "utmost restraint" in nuclear testing.

Sri Lanka, however, is pleased to note the undertakings given by these nuclear weapon States to conclude a Comprehensive Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) no later than the end of 1996.

While expressing its concern at these unfortunate events, Sri Lanka urges the members of the Conference on Disarmament, to conduct their negotiations with renewed vigour to ensure the early conclusion of a CTBT by 1996. In this regard, Sri Lanka wishes to reiterate its strong conviction that the treaty should be comprehensive and without any provision for exceptions; universal and internationally and effectively verifiable. The CTBT should ban all nuclear testing, in all environments, for all time.

I would be grateful, if the text of this statement is issued as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament and distributed to the member States and non-member participants of the Conference on Disarmament.